

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 20, 2006. Claims 1 to 4, 6 to 14, 16 to 20, 22 to 24 and 26 remain in the application, of which Claims 1, 11, 23, 24 and 26 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 4, 6, 7, 9 to 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22 to 24 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,073,075 (Kondou) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,731,940 (Nagendran), and Claims 8 and 18 have been rejected under § 103(a) over Kondou in view of Nagendran and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,671,737 (Snowdon). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention automatically transmits data between servers based on a user's location. According to the invention, the location of a terminal which the user carries is pursued, and based on the location of the terminal, data stored in one server is transmitted to another server located nearest the location, without the user inputting an instruction to output the data and without an instruction to transmit the data, if the other server which corresponds to the location information is different from the one server which has stored the data. If the user then wants to output (e.g., print) the data, since the data has already been transmitted to a device near the user, they can readily print out the data at a printer near the user's location. Thus, there are two important features of the invention: 1) transmitting the data from one server where the data is stored to another server near the user's location without an instruction from the user to transmit the data and without an instruction from the user to output the data, and 2) then outputting the data from the another server to one of a plurality of printers in accordance with an instruction by the user to output the data.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 is a data output system including a plurality of output apparatuses and a plurality of information accumulating apparatuses, wherein data stored in one of the plurality of information accumulating apparatuses is output by one of the plurality of output apparatuses, comprising a pursuing unit adapted to pursue a location of a terminal which a user carries, a data transmission unit adapted to select one of the plurality of information accumulating apparatuses that corresponds to location information indicative of the location of the terminal pursued by the pursuing unit, and transmit data that has been stored in another of the plurality of information accumulating apparatuses from the another information accumulating apparatus to the selected information accumulating apparatus if the selected information accumulating apparatus which corresponds to the location information is different from the another information accumulating apparatus which has stored the data, and an output processing unit adapted to transmit the data transmitted to the selected information accumulating apparatus by the data transmission unit from the selected information accumulating apparatus to the one of the plurality of output apparatuses in accordance with an instruction from the user for the output of the data, wherein the data transmission unit transmits the data from the another information accumulating apparatus to the selected information accumulating apparatus without an instruction from the user for the output of the data and without an instruction from the user for the transmission of the data to the selected information accumulating apparatus.

Independent Claims 11, 21, 23, 24 and 26 are method, terminal, apparatus, storage medium, and apparatus claims, respectively, that include features which substantially correspond to those included in Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 11, 21 and 23, 24 and 26. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of transmitting data that has been stored in one of a plurality of information accumulating apparatuses to another selected information accumulating apparatus, which is selected based on a pursued location of a terminal which a user carries, if the selected information accumulating apparatus which corresponds to the location information is different from the one information accumulating apparatus which has stored the data, without an instruction from the user for the output of the data and without an instruction from the user for the transmission of the data to the selected information accumulating apparatus.

Kondou discloses that a user moves from a first location to a second location with a mobile terminal 10. When the user changes locations, the mobile terminal 10 informs a server 21 of positional information on a current position of the terminal. The server 21 selects and retrieves “service information” from a database based on the positional information and sends the retrieved information to the mobile terminal. Thus, Kondou only includes one server and does not include two servers (i.e., information accumulating apparatuses) where one server transmits data to another server that is selected based on a location. Additionally, Kondou does not transmit the data from one server to the selected server without an instruction from the user to transmit the data and without an instruction from the user to output the data. That is, the server 21 merely receives the positional information from the mobile terminal and selects the information to be sent directly to the terminal. The invention does not send the data directly to the terminal, but rather, sends the data to a selected server that corresponds to the location of the terminal. In Kondou, there is simply a one-to-one correspondence between the server 21

and the mobile terminal 10 and therefore, there is no need to select a server to send the information to, much less the need to select a server corresponding to the location of the terminal. Accordingly, Kondou is not seen to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of the present invention.

Nagendran merely discloses selecting information that corresponds to location information so as to generate location-specific information. The location-specific information is transmitted from a base station 10 to a mobile station 11 which the user carries. In contrast, the present invention selects one information accumulating apparatus from among a plurality of information accumulating apparatuses that corresponds to location information of the terminal. Additionally, the transmission is performed in the invention without an instruction from the user to transmit the data and without an instruction from the user to output the data. Accordingly, Nagendran is not seen to add anything that, when combined with Kondou, would have disclosed or suggested the present invention.

Snowdon has been studied but is not seen to add anything that, when combined with Kondou and/or Nagendran, would have rendered the present invention obvious. In particular, Snowdon, like Kondou and Nagendran, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of transmitting data that has been stored in one of a plurality of information accumulating apparatuses to another selected information accumulating apparatus, which is selected based on a pursued location of a terminal which a user carries, if the selected information accumulating apparatus which corresponds to the location information is different from the one information accumulating apparatus which has stored the data, without an instruction from the user for the output of the data and without an instruction from the user for the transmission of the data to the selected information accumulating apparatus.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 1, 11, 21, 23, 24 and 26, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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